GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4952
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2002
VIRTUAL CALLING CARDS
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the virtual calling card was introduced to regulate STD and ISD facility;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the sale of this card has increased many folds;

(c) if so, whether Government are aware that there is a lot of call jam particularly during peak times and people are not getting the lines; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to increase the capacity of the lines on the cards?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) Sir, the VCC Card has been introduced to facilitate STD/ISD usage for STD barred phones.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) During peak hours, particularly when concessional STD ratestarts, there is sudden rise i n traffic. However, during day time, normally there is no such incident of heavy congestion.

(d) Following steps are being taken:

(i) To meet the growing demand, Service Control Points (SCPs)were added at Mumbai and Bangalore. The Service Switching Point (SSP) at Kolkata has been upgraded.

(ii) Further, new switches at Ahmedabad and Lucknow have been planned and shall be commissioned shortly